

In the Claims

1. (original) A method for turning a patient lying supine on a bed onto his or her side in a manner that avoids musculoskeletal injuries to workers, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a draw sheet under the patient and providing a support sheet directly under the draw sheet, the support sheet positioned directly on top of a bed and any bedding of the bed, a central portion of the draw sheet having a substantially frictionless lower surface and a normal friction upper surface, and a normal friction surface in a left portion and in a right portion of the draw sheet and the support sheet having a substantially frictionless upper surface in a central portion, a length of the central portion of the draw sheet and a length of the central portion of the support sheet exceeding a width of the patient, the draw sheet sized for the patient so that a width of the draw sheet approximately spans at least an approximate distance from the patient's neck to just past the patient's hips, the draw sheet long enough so that a first end and a second end thereof can be tucked into the bed and a first end easily grasped,

(b) a worker standing in a lunge position at a first side of the bed with palms facing upward, grasping the first end of the draw sheet and pulling said first end of the draw sheet in a horizontal motion toward him or herself, the patient sliding as a result toward the first side of the bed,

(c) the worker throwing the first end of the draw sheet over the patient onto a second opposite side of the bed,

(d) the worker walking to the second opposite side of the bed,

(e) the worker standing in a lunge position at the second opposite side of the bed with

palms facing upward grasping the first end of the draw sheet and pulling said first end of the draw sheet in a horizontal motion toward him or herself, the patient turning on his or her side as a result.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pulling in steps (b) and (e) are done gently.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon and wherein the pulling in steps (b) and (e) are done gently.

5. (original) A method for turning a patient lying supine on a bed onto his or her side in a manner that avoids musculoskeletal injuries to workers, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a flattened roll of fabric under the patient, the flattened roll of fabric having an inner layer and an outer layer, a draw sheet portion of the outer layer of the flattened roll of fabric directly under the patient and the flattened roll of fabric directly on top of a bed and any bedding of the bed, the inner layer made of a substantially frictionless material and the outer layer made of a normal friction material surface, the flattened roll of fabric sized for the patient so that a width of the flattened roll of fabric approximately spans at least an approximate distance

from the patient's neck to just past the patient's hips, a first end of the draw sheet portion of the flattened roll of fabric extending beyond the bed for comfortable grasping,

(b) a worker standing in a lunge position at a first side of the bed with palms facing upward grasping the first end of the draw sheet portion of the flattened roll of fabric and pulling said first end of the draw sheet portion in a horizontal motion toward him or herself, the patient sliding as a result toward the first side of the bed,

(c) the worker throwing the first end of the draw sheet portion over the patient onto a second opposite side of the bed,

(d) the worker walking to the second opposite side of the bed,

(e) the worker standing in a lunge position at the second opposite side of the bed with palms facing upward grasping the first end of the draw sheet portion and pulling said first end of the draw sheet portion in a horizontal motion toward him or herself, the patient turning on his or her side as a result.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the pulling in steps (b) and (e) are done gently.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon.

8. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon and

wherein the pulling in steps (b) and (e) are done gently.

9. (original) A method for repositioning a patient lying supine on a bed in a manner that avoids musculoskeletal injuries to workers, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a draw sheet under the patient and providing a support sheet directly under the draw sheet, the support sheet positioned directly on top of a bed and any bedding of the bed, a central portion of the draw sheet having a substantially frictionless lower surface and a normal friction upper surface, and a normal friction surface in a left portion and in a right portion of the draw sheet and the support sheet having a substantially frictionless upper surface in a central portion, a length of the central portion of the draw sheet and a length of the central portion of the support sheet exceeding a width of the patient, the draw sheet sized for the patient so that a width of the draw sheet approximately spans at least an approximate distance from the patient's neck to just past the patient's hips, the draw sheet long enough so that a first end and a second end thereof can be tucked into the bed and a first end easily grasped, and

(b) a first worker standing in a lunge position at a first side of the bed with palms facing upward and standing facing a first side of the draw sheet grasping the first side of the draw sheet near the first end of the draw sheet and pulling the draw sheet at the same time that a second worker standing in a lunge position at a second side of the bed with palms facing upward and standing facing a second side of the draw sheet near the second end of the draw sheet grasping the second side of the draw sheet is pulling the draw sheet, both workers pulling the draw sheet toward themselves so that the patient slides upward or downward in the bed.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the pulling in step (b) is done gently.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon.

12. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon and wherein the pulling in step (b) is done gently.

13. (original) A method for repositioning a patient lying supine on a bed in a manner that avoids musculoskeletal injuries to workers, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a draw sheet under the patient and providing a support sheet directly under the draw sheet, the support sheet positioned directly on top of a bed and any bedding of the bed, a central portion of the draw sheet having a substantially frictionless lower surface and a normal friction upper surface, and a normal friction surface in a left portion and in a right portion of the draw sheet and the support sheet having a substantially frictionless upper surface in a central portion, a length of the central portion of the draw sheet and a length of the central portion of the support sheet exceeding a width of the patient, the draw sheet sized for the patient so that a width of the draw sheet approximately spans at least an approximate distance from the patient's neck to just past the patient's hips, the draw sheet long enough so that a first end and a second end thereof can be tucked into the bed and a first end easily grasped, and

(b) a worker standing in a lunge position at a first side of the bed with palms facing upward grasping the first end of the draw sheet and pulling said first end of the draw sheet in a horizontal motion toward him or herself, the patient sliding as a result toward the first side of the bed.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the pulling in step (b) is done gently.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon.

16. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein step (a) involves providing a draw sheet in which the substantially frictionless material of the central portion of the draw sheet is nylon and wherein the pulling in step (b) is done gently.

17. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the substantially frictionless lower surface of the draw sheet is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta and wherein the substantially frictionless upper surface of the support sheet is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta.

18. (new) The method of claim 5, wherein the inner layer of the flattened roll of fabric is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta.

19. (new) The method of claim 9, wherein the substantially frictionless lower surface of the draw sheet is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta and wherein the substantially frictionless upper surface of the support sheet is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta.

20. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the substantially frictionless lower surface of the draw sheet is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta and wherein the substantially frictionless upper surface of the support sheet is made of 86 pic nylon taffeta.